

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/828,433

Examiner

Dac V. Ha

Applicant(s)

MARTINEZ, BORIS N.

Art Unit

2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed on 04/20/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11, 13, 14, 12, 15-20, renumbered as 1-20, respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Dac V. Ha
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2611

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-20 are allowed.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The present invention relates to method and apparatus for dynamic impedance matching. Such concept is now new in the art, however, prior art of record (closest reference, Groen et al. – US 2006/0006901), taking alone or in combination with others, fails to fairly teach such method and apparatus, as claimed, including “applying the first signal to a first tuning element to generate a reference signal; receiving a second signal; applying the second signal to a second tuning element to generate a test signal, wherein the second tuning element is configured similarly to the first tuning element; sampling the reference signal to generate a time-sampled reference signal; sampling the test signal to generate a time-sampled test signal; integrating the time-sampled reference signal and the time-sampled test signal to generate an error signal; and applying the error signal to adjust an output driver” in independent claim 1 and “a reference driver coupled to a first tuning element, the reference driver and the first tuning element configured to receive a first input signal and generate a reference signal comprising a primary reference component and a reflected reference component; a test driver coupled to a second tuning element, the test driver and the second tuning element configured to receive a second input signal and generate a test signal comprising a primary test component and a reflected test component; an integrator

configured to receive the reference signal and the test signal and generate an error signal" in independent claim 8 and "means for generating a reference signal responsive to a first input signal, wherein the reference signal emulates signal reflections due to a characteristic impedance of transmission lines in the system; means for generating a test signal responsive to a second input signal that enables signal reflections responsive to second input signal transitions and the characteristic impedance of transmission lines in the system to dampen before subsequent second input signal transitions; and means for generating an error signal responsive to the reference signal and the test signal" in independent claim 18 (claims 2-7, 9-17 and 19-20 depend therefrom). Thus, claims 1-20 are found to be novel and unobvious over prior art of record.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Groen et al. (US 2006/0006901) discloses DAC Based Driver With Selectable Pre-Emphasis Signal Level.

Helt et al. (US 6,759,868) discloses Circuit And Method For Compensation IF High-Frequency Signal Loss On A Transmission Line.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dac V. Ha whose telephone number is 571-272-3040. The examiner can normally be reached on 5/4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on 571-272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dac V. Ha', with a horizontal line drawn underneath the signature.

Dac V. Ha
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2611